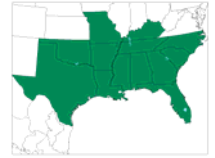


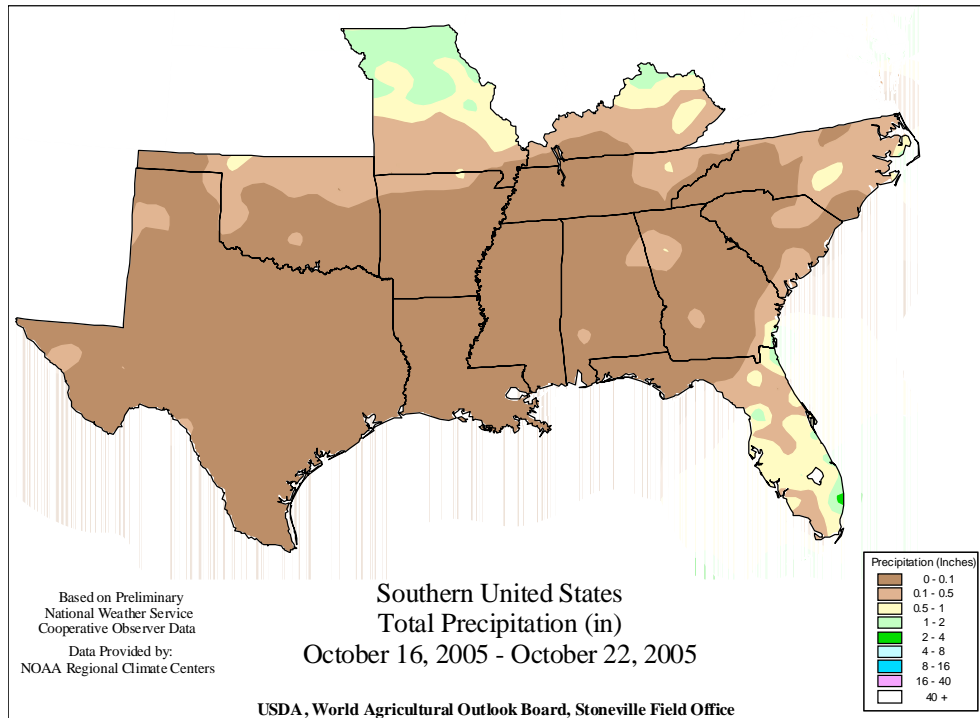


**Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Stoneville Field Office**



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

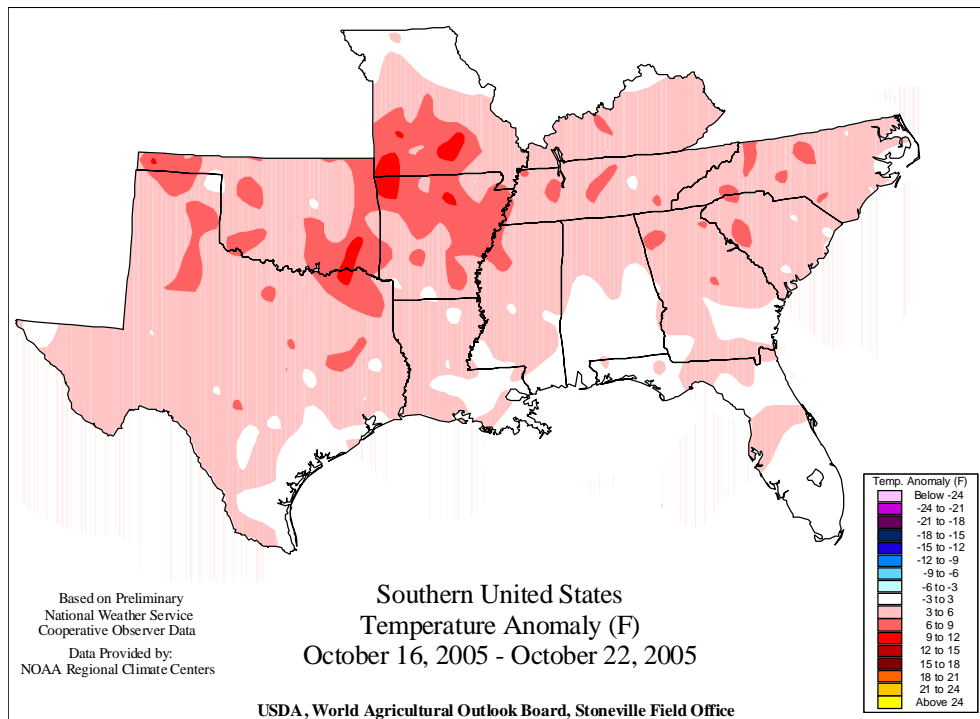
October 16 to 22, 2005



Weather Highlights

Very little rainfall occurred across most of the southern U.S. over the week. Late in the week, northern portions of Missouri and Kentucky received between .50 to 2 inches of rainfall from an area of low pressure. Other wet areas included mostly central to south Florida which received up to 2 inches of rainfall from Tropical Storm Wilma, later turned hurricane. Otherwise, the region was very dry.

Weekly temperatures averaged above normal for most of the region. Mainly, temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees F above normal, but in concentrated areas in Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, temperatures were as high as 12 degrees F above normal. Some scattered locations east of the Mississippi River observed above average conditions, with three locations in South Carolina breaking records for daily highs on Saturday, October 22, of 84 degrees F. Near normal conditions occurred for most areas adjacent to the Gulf Coast, and in areas that experienced heavier cloud cover from passing systems and/or shower activity.



The Mississippi Delta experienced dry weather and above-normal temperatures during the week. Temperatures reached as much as 15 degrees F above normal for daily highs in Stoneville at mid-week. A record was set on Wednesday, October 19, of 90 degrees F, beating the old record of 89 degrees F from 1998. As in the weeks past, the weather pattern greatly assisted in final harvesting efforts, but continued to heighten the fire danger risk from the low humidities.

(For additional information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)

Agricultural Summary

United States Crop Progress Report*					
Week Ending					
		October 23, 2005	October 16, 2005	October 23, 2004	2000-2004 Average
		Percent			
Cotton	Bolls Opening	94	90	88	94
	Harvested	44	36	41	47
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	59	58	66	---
Corn	Harvested	65	49	53	62
Rice	Harvested	97	93	97	95
Soybeans	Harvested	87	76	78	79
*Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)					
"---" = Not Reported					

Cotton:

Harvest advanced 8 points to 44 percent complete nationally, 3 points ahead of last year but 3 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest progressed substantially in most of the southern states due to excellent harvest weather. Louisiana's harvest advanced 9 points and led all the southern states' harvesting progress, having 98 percent of their crop harvested, 18 points ahead of their 5-year average and 26 points ahead of last year. Harvest in Tennessee advanced 22 points to 66 percent complete, while progress in Missouri advanced 17 points to 84 percent harvested. Harvest in Mississippi, Arkansas, and North Carolina advanced 15 points to 89 percent, 88 percent, and 35 percent complete, respectively. Nationally, crop conditions improved 1 percentage point from the previous week to 59 percent of the crop rated good to excellent.

Corn:

Sixty-five percent of the nation's crop had been harvested, 12 points ahead of last year and 3 point ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest was complete or neared completion in all of the southern states. Missouri was the furthest from completion, with 88 percent of their acreage harvested, 1 point ahead of the 5-year average.

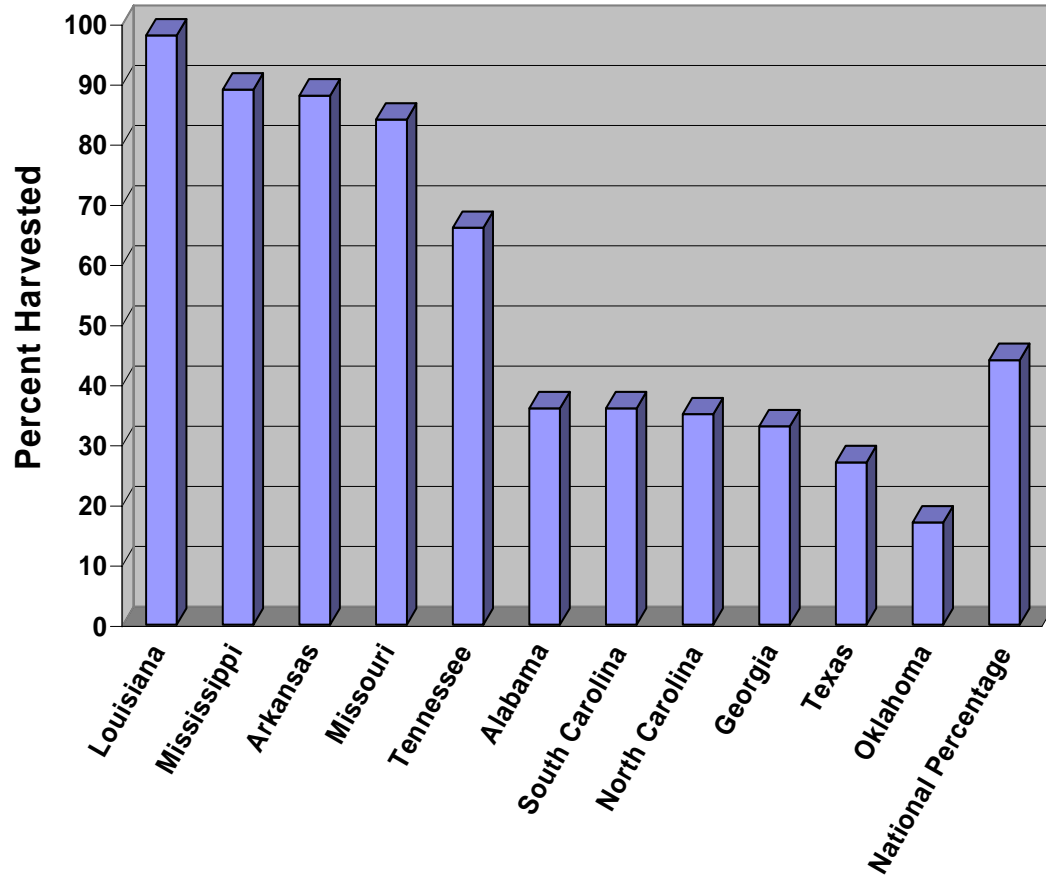
Rice:

Nationally, 97 percent of the acreage had been harvested, equal to last year and 2 points ahead of the 5-year average pace. Harvest was complete or neared completion in all of the southern states. Missouri's and Arkansas' harvest progress was 97 percent complete and lagged the other southern states.

Soybeans:

Harvest was 87 percent complete nationally, 9 points ahead of last year and 8 points ahead of the 5-year average pace. Harvest neared completion in Louisiana where 98 percent had been harvested and in Mississippi where 97 percent had been harvested. Harvest progress in Georgia and South Carolina lagged all southern states, with 9 and 10 percent having been harvested, respectively.

2005 Cotton Harvest Progress Week Ending October 23, 2005



Cotton Harvest Progress:

Louisiana led all southern states with 98 percent of their crop harvested, followed by Mississippi with 89 percent, Arkansas with 88 percent, and Missouri with 84 percent. Of the southern states, Oklahoma trailed all southern states with 17 percent harvested. Harvest progressed to 27 percent complete in Texas, 33 percent in Georgia, and 35 percent in North Carolina. Alabama and South Carolina both had harvested 36 percent of their acreage.

(For additional information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)